

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. **(currently amended)** An isolated cDNA or recombinant nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid encoding a DRG11 protein, wherein said ~~nucleic acid encoding a DRG11 protein is~~ at least 70% identical to the DRG11 protein sequence ~~hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a complement of a nucleic acid molecule having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 2, and wherein said DRG11 protein is characterized by its natural expression in sensory neurons and dorsal horn neurons of the spinal cord and wherein its natural expression is absent~~ non-expression in non-neuronal cells, sympathetic neurons and ventricular neurons of the spinal cord.
2. **(previously amended)** An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 encoding the amino acid sequence depicted in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:2).
4. **(previously amended)** An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 comprising the nucleic acid depicted in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:1).
5. **(previously amended)** An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 operably linked to an expression vector comprising transcriptional and translational regulatory DNA.
6. **(original)** A host cell transformed with an expression vector according to claim 5.
7. **(previously added)** A method of producing a DRG11 protein comprising:
 - a) culturing a host cell transformed with an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 1; and
 - b) expressing said nucleic acid to produce a DRG11 protein.